EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or

additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR

1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the

payment of the issue fee.

       Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with

Mr. Fischer (reg. 60,900) on 12/4/2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

67.   (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

       one or more distribution servers used to install client software on a plurality of

client computers and to subsequently use the client software to perform tasks later

assigned to [[the]] one or more of the plurality of client computers by at least one of the

distribution servers;

       at least one computer program operative on the one or more distribution servers to

communicate with [[a]] the plurality of client computers to initiate an installation of the

client software on the client computers, wherein the installation on [[one]] a particular

computer of the plurality of client computer computers comprises:

              i) distributing a client software component installation file to the particular

       client computer;

              ii) distributing a client service installation file to the particular client

       computer; and

              iii) from at least one of the distribution servers, remotely causing the client

       software component installation file and the client service installation file to be

       used to install a client software component and a client service, respectively,

wherein the client software component and the client service are associated with one another when installed on the particular client computer, and

wherein the client software component and the client service are subsequently used by the particular client computer to perform at least in part one or more tasks assigned to the particular client computer by at least one of the distribution servers;

and wherein the one or more distribution servers including one or more distribution computer programs are operative to:

a) manage a hierarchical list of at least some of the plurality of client computers, wherein the hierarchical list uniquely identifies each of the client computers on the hierarchical list using a computer identification and wherein the hierarchical list is configured to arrange and group the at least some of the plurality of client computers into one or more computer groups;

b) assign tasks to one or more client computers managed in the hierarchical list, wherein the tasks are assigned to individual ones of the client computers on the hierarchical list based on the computer identification or to groups of computers on the hierarchical list based on the computer groups, wherein the tasks include at least one item selected from the group: a file, a script or a command; and

c) store the tasks assigned to the client computers in the hierarchical list[.]];

and wherein the particular client computer having installed thereon the client software component and the client service, the client software component and client service operative on the particular client computer to:

i) connect to at least one of the distribution servers;

ii) request one or more scheduled tasks from the at least one distribution servers, the one or more scheduled tasks having been previously assigned to the particular client computer using the hierarchical list;

iii) receive the one or more scheduled tasks, the one or more scheduled tasks including at least one of a file, a script, or a command; and

iv) process the one or more scheduled tasks, wherein to process the one or more scheduled tasks, the client software component and client service are operative on the particular client computer to:

i) determine whether the particular client computer is licensed to execute the one or more scheduled tasks;

ii) determine whether a special account is required to execute the one or more scheduled tasks;

iii) automatically log into the particular client computer using the special account when the particular client computer is licensed to execute the one or more scheduled tasks and requires the special account to execute the one or more scheduled tasks; and

iv) use the special account to perform the one or more scheduled tasks.

68.-69. (Canceled)

70.   (Currently Amended) A method for distributing tasks from a distribution server to a client computer, comprising:

i) distributing a client software component installation file to the client computer from the distribution server;

ii) distributing a client service installation file to the client computer from the distribution server; and

iii) remotely invoking from the distribution server, the client software component installation file and the client service installation file to install a client software component and a client service, respectively,

wherein the client software component and the client service are associated with one another when installed on the client computer, and wherein the client software component and the client service are first installed by the installation on the client computer;

and ~~further comprising~~ performing by the distribution server:

a) managing a hierarchical list of at least some of a plurality of client computers, wherein the hierarchical list uniquely identifies each of the client computers on the hierarchical list using a computer identification and wherein the hierarchical list is configured to arrange and group the at least some of the plurality of client computers into one or more computer groups and wherein the client computer is included in the plurality of client computers;

b) assigning tasks to one or more client computers of the at least some of the plurality of client computers managed in the hierarchical list, wherein the tasks are assigned to individual ones of the client computers on the hierarchical list based on the computer identification or to groups of computers on the hierarchical list based on the computer groups, wherein the tasks include at least one item selected from the group: a file, a script or a command; and

c) storing the tasks assigned to the client computers in the hierarchical list, wherein at least one of the tasks assigned to one of the client computers is performed at least in part using ~~one or more of~~ at least one of: (a) the client software component [[and]] or (b) the client service component installed on the client computers[[.]];

and wherein the client computer having installed thereon the client software component and the client service, performs:

d) connecting to the distribution server via the client software component and the client service;

e) requesting one or more scheduled tasks from the distribution server, the one or more scheduled tasks having been previously assigned to the client computer using the hierarchical list;

f) receiving the one or more scheduled tasks, the one or more scheduled tasks including at least one of a file, a script, or a command; and

g) processing the one or more scheduled tasks, wherein processing the one or more scheduled tasks further comprises:

i) determining whether the client computer is licensed to execute the one or more scheduled tasks;

ii) determining whether a special account is required to execute the one or more scheduled tasks;

iii) automatically logging into the client computer using the special account when the client computer is licensed to execute the one or more scheduled tasks and requires the special account to execute the one or more scheduled tasks; and

iv) using the special account to perform the one or more scheduled tasks.

71.-78. (Canceled)

Note: The title has been changed to –Software distribution systems and methods using one or more channels.

Examiner's Statement of Reason(s) for Allowance

2.   Claims 67 and 70 (renumbered as 1-2) are allowed.

3.   The following is an examiner's statement of reason s for allowance:

The prior arts of record, taken alone or in combination, fail to teach or fairly suggest at least:

…request one or more scheduled tasks from the at least one distribution servers, the one or more scheduled tasks having been previously assigned to the particular client computer using the hierarchical list…i) determine whether the particular client computer is licensed to execute the one or more scheduled tasks; ii) determine whether a special account is required to execute the one or more scheduled tasks; iii) automatically log into the particular client computer using the special account when the particular client computer is licensed to execute the one or more scheduled tasks and requires the special account to execute the one or more scheduled tasks; and iv) use the special account to perform the one or more scheduled tasks.

4.   Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the

payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for

Allowance."

5.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to INSUN KANG whose telephone number is (571)272-3724. The

examiner can normally be reached on M-R 7:30-6 PM.

        If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Lewis A. Bullock, Jr. can be reached on 571-272-3759. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information

regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information

Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from

either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available

through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-

direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the

Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from

a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call

800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Insun Kang/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2193